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TROUBLE IN THE NATIONAL WALL PAPER COMPANY.

IF the statements set forth in the affidavits made by Robert S. Hobbs and his son, Robert F. Hobbs, of the firm of R. S. Hobbs & Co., members of the National Wall-Paper Company, in their endeavors to wind up the affairs of that concern, be true, there is a considerable amount of trouble among the members of this gigantic organization and its affiliations. According to Mr. Hobbs, "the only result of the combination has been to prevent competition, to freeze out jobbers, to reduce the wages of the employees, to increase the price of the wall paper to the consumer, and drive out of business those manufacturers who refuse to join, and finally to crush even those who become parties to the trust agreement, so as to finally secure the stock given to the members of the trust at a low and inadequate price." These are serious charges to be made by anyone against the National Wall Paper Company; but particularly at the hands of one of its own incorporators. With an ever-increasing activity on the part of the outside manufacturers, and dissension and disruption in its ranks, it would appear from the present outlook that the National combination has its hands full of trouble. The sympathies of the bulk of the trade are, it is stated, with the outside manufacturers, as the average trader in any line of business hates to be coerced to do a thing, even if his own interests are immediately

concerned. The story of the methods of the company, as told in the daily papers, places it in a very unfavorable light.

N. H. BIRGE & SONS.

THE incorporation of the firm of M. H. Birge & Sons is a great triumph for the National Wall Paper Company, by reason of the fact that this firm held a paramount position in the trade by virtue of the originality and artistic quality of their productions and the business enterprise that conducted their commercial affairs. It is understood that many changes of policy have been agreed upon on the part of the Company, and that in the future there will be no discrimination in favor of persons dealing exclusively with it. The firm has, since the burning of the factory at Buffalo, been doing business at Bristol, Pa., pending the rebuilding of their Buffalo factory, on the construction of which a force of working men are steadily employed.

A NEW WALL PAPER ENTERPRISE.

MR. J. STEWART CORY and Mr. Thomas A. Prior, who were recently connected with the firm of Messrs. M. H. Birge & Sons, resigned their connection with that firm when it joined the National Wall Paper Company, and have since become associated with the York Card and Paper Company, of York, Pa., manufacturers of wall paper. Judging from the change of base made by these gentlemen, we infer that their

sympathies are exclusively with the independent branch of the wall paper manufacturing business, and their connection with the York Wall Paper Company means the revolution of the style of the goods hitherto manufactured by this firm. They aim at nothing less than occupying the position among the independent manufacturers which was formerly occupied by the Birge concern, and as managers of the business will manufacture a full line of goods that will embrace the most elegant and expensive productions, as well as the cheaper lines of goods. Both are comparatively young men who possess a vast acquaintance with the trade, an accurate knowledge of its wants, and an enthusiasm and ability to supply its needs to the utmost. Backed by unlimited resources, their firm will prove a most formidable competitor to the associated factories.

THE CHEVREL MARQUETRY.

THE use of marquetry in the embellishment of furniture is still in its infancy in this country, but its extreme beauty is recognized by manufacturers of the better class of house furnishings, and, among the many varieties of marquetry already in use, the artistic productions by Chevrel, the great Parisian designer of marquetry and mosaic, take the lead. His products of art in inlaid panel work are characterized by great artistic beauty of design executed on tinted woods in delicately harmonious combinations that rival highly-finished painting on satin. They represent groups of musical instruments, such as man-

Independent

... William Campbell & Co.

Manufacturers
...of

Wall Papers

...Factories: { 425 to 431 East 24th Street
 { 433 & 435
 { Both extending through to
 { East 25th Street. . . .
.
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Office and { 250 and 252 . . .
Warehouse: { . . . West 27th Street

New York . . .

dolins, tambourines, shepherd's pipes, pan pipes, flageolets intertwined with sprays of fuschias, white and yellow roses, and outlined against open music books in which every note can be easily distinguished and read. Other designs are in arabesque and scroll work and others again in the style known as Empire. The Chevreil marquetry is the recognized standard of excellence in panel work. The agents for the United States and Canada are William Tonk & Brother, of 26 Warren street, New York.

HAASE & MOELLER.

THE decoration of the endless number of buildings that are constantly being erected on the upper west side of this city requires the energies of a great number of decorative firms who are qualified to transform the cold, bare walls of the newly erected dwellings into homes wherein comfort and art go hand in hand. Within the last decade or so a new school of interior decoration has been developed, whose energies are demanded to beautify homes in a tasteful yet inexpensive manner, and among these the firm of Messrs. Haase & Moeller, located at the corner of Fifth avenue and Forty-second street, is one that is thoroughly familiar with the artistic as well as the practical side of their profession. In a conversation with Mr. Moeller, of the firm, we learn that the materials most extensively demanded by house owners in this important section are cartridge papers for libraries and others with soft background desired to show paintings, etchings, etc., to the best advantage. In parlors, drawing and music rooms the most beautiful results are produced by treatment in free-hand relief, which is applied by hand and model directly on the surface. The use of woven fabrics in wall decoration is largely on the increase, and the material known as burlap or buckram is now very extensively used, and besides being a protection against cracks is a very decorative fabric, as it is now dyed in many beautiful shades. It can be painted or decorated in relief or otherwise. This material is widely used in this city, being particularly adapted to dining rooms or halls or wherever a tapestry effect is desired, it being in the nature of a coarse tapestry.

The business was founded many years ago, and the firm has connections of the most desirable character. The decorative business is one that requires experience, judgment, correct taste and ample resources, and a glance at the work done by Haase & Moeller verifies their possession of these desirable qualities. For elegance of design and richness of coloring the mural decorations executed by them cannot be surpassed.

"EXTRA STAR" GLUE.

COMPLAINTS have frequently been made that fine cabinet-work, furniture, etc., comes apart where joints have been made. Why is this? It would appear that there must be some fault of construction. But this explanation will hardly suffice, because the same complaints have been made when the best skilled labor has been employed. Some other reasons must be sought for. We are told that it is the quality of the glue used, that it is inferior, and that during the late commercial depression, when nearly everybody endeavored to economize, cheap glue was often used with the result that the quality of work suffered. When the best work is looked for there is no better glue than the "Extra Star" brand of Coignet & Co., of Paris and Lyons, for whom the agents in this city are Alfred Hodge & Co., of 108 Broad street.

PROPER LUBRICANT FOR CYCLE CHAINS.

IT is conceded by all wheelmen that some lubricant is needed to prevent wear of chain and sprocket wheel; such a lubricant not only prevents wear but very largely increases speed and ease of driving. Oil or grease, while useful for the moment, catches and holds dust and dirt. After much experimenting it has been found that graphite makes the most perfect lubricant, when the right kind is used and properly prepared.

The word graphite, like the word charity, covers a multitude of sins. Under the name of graphite lubricant are found compounds of cheap black-lead stove polish, foundry facings, soapstone, etc. Safety in buying, and the

surety of getting the best lubricant made, lie in purchasing of a firm of world-wide reputation and long experience. Such a firm is the Joseph Dixon Crucible Company, of Jersey City, N. J. They have mined and manipulated graphite for nearly seventy years, and when called upon by leading wheelmen to furnish a cycle lubricant that would meet the fullest requirements of the cyclist, they first purchased samples of all the chain lubricants in the market and analyzed them, and then selected from their choicest stocks of graphite a brand of graphite of unequalled smoothness, and produced a stick, or solid lubricant, which will not gum or hold dirt and dust, but which will so thoroughly lubricate the chain and sprockets that the wear will be reduced to the slightest degree, and ease of riding and speed greatly increased.

PETER SCHNEIDER'S SONS & CO.

THE transformation that takes place from season to season in decorative textile fabrics, both for hangings and decorative stuffs, is nothing short of the novel. The artists and weavers of France still lead the world for beauty of design and technical excellence of execution in the production of brocades, brocatelles, satin damasks and tapestries of all kinds; but the American manufacturers of these fine goods are striving might and main to rival the French in their own field, and the domestic productions, it must be admitted, rival those of France in every point of excellence, but whether the buyer of French goods prefers the American or imported materials, his taste and purse are both accommodated by a selection made from the tremendous stock of goods, both native and imported, which is carried by the well-known firm of Peter Schneider's Sons & Co., of Nos. 185 and 187 Canal street, New York. This firm carries a complete line of satin damasks, brocatelles, etc., in one, two, and three-tone effects. They offer a great variety of tapestries in silk and cotton, all silk, all wool, and wool mixtures, cotton and silk draperies, fine lines of rare designs in Kremlin damasks, Oriental stuffs, fancy broideries for draperies and separate pieces. Aubusson, Belleville, and Auvergne fabrics for small chairs, armchairs and sofas. Plushes in all colors and mohairs are sold at moderate prices. Plain and fancy velours, lace goods, etc., are offered in endless variety to meet the multifarious tastes of modern householders in the great art of artistic housefurnishing. The firm is one of entire reliability, and enjoys an excellent reputation in the trade.

THE MISSING LINK BETWEEN OIL PAINT AND KALSOMINE.

THE Arabol Manufacturing Company are about putting a new paint on the market, the missing link between oil paint and kalsomine. It is furnished in white and in all shades, and comes as a thick paste, which is reduced by adding about one-third cold water before use. It dries out as hard as oil paint and will not rub off, no matter how hard you rub. It has less gloss than oil paint, but is not as flat as kalsomine, and smoother. Its cost is calculated to be one-fourth or one-fifth that of oil paint, and it will no doubt take the place of the latter to a large extent for interior decorations, the more so as the gloss of oil paint, if desired, can be easily obtained by giving a final coat of a very thin solution of liquid mica (the "extra fine" of the Arabol Manufacturing Company.) It has no equal for durability and easy application as a coat for brick walls and wooden partitions. It has no odor whatever and needs no sizing preparatory to use, as it acts as a primer at the same time. In the experiments, which were made so far, both paint and kalsomine brushes were used for rough work, such as coating the walls and partitions of factory buildings. For better work very soft, long-haired paint brushes and wall paint brushes seem to be best. Where two coats are wanted a light coat is first given in the same way you would apply oil paint and the second and heavier coat can be given right after the first coat and without giving the first coat time to dry, say within twenty minutes. The second coat is put on as heavy as possible. For both coats the same mixture is used, about two-thirds Arabol Water Paint and one-third water. A coat of Arabol Water Paint, before giving a coat of oil paint, will save one, and on new walls or wood,

two coats of oil paint. It is whiter than oil paint. The manufacturers of Arabol Water Paint wish to get opinions from different quarters as to the most practical way of working it on plastered walls, and with that end in view offer free a two-gallon sample to any subscriber of this paper who will pay freight or expressage on same and report as to his experience. This offer holds good for thirty days.

The Glutol—The Painters' Liquid Glue—which this firm introduced about a year ago, and which has found so much favor with the trade all over, has undergone a further improvement for this season. It is now made whiter in color, easier to mix with cold water and last, not least, it dries out harder. Considering, moreover, that the Glutol keeps sweet for weeks, and during the hottest weather while in solution and in kalsomine and that it is as cheap as animal glue, a painter who once uses Glutol, will never use animal glue again. Address The Arabol Manufacturing Company, 13 Gold street, New York, for particulars.

NATIONAL SCULPTURE SOCIETY.

THE National Sculpture Society will hold its second annual exhibition in the galleries of the American Fine Arts Society's building, 215 West Fifty-seventh street, New York, from Tuesday, May 7, to Thursday, May 23. Combined with it will be a retrospective exhibition of sculpture.

In connection with the display of sculpture will be an exhibition of landscape gardening after designs by Nathan F. Barrett, landscape engineer, and Thomas Hastings, architect the flowers and plants for which will be furnished by Messrs. Pitcher & Manda, of Short Hills, New Jersey.

The purpose of this exhibition is to show the possibilities of combining sculpture with flowers and plants in both natural and formal gardening and in interior decoration.

It is believed that the tendency will be to encourage a larger use of sculpture in the embellishment of the villas and houses of America, and to give a new and powerful impulse to the production of ideal sculpture throughout the nation.

The exhibition being partly retrospective in character, all works of sculpture, whether exhibited before or not, are eligible, subject to the decision of the jury of admission.

Exhibitors must inform the secretary before April 1, of the number of works they intend sending, and not fail to state the nature of the material and exact dimensions of each work as to height and size of base, on entry blanks, to be had on application to the secretary. Works not thus properly entered will be positively refused, as the nature of the proposed exhibition requires that the dimensions and number of works to be placed should be exactly known at a certain date.

Pedestals will be furnished by the society.

It will greatly aid the placing committee and redound to the advantage of the exhibitor if a good photo is sent with works intended for exhibition.

COMPETITION FOR A NEW DESIGN FOR THE UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLAR.

Two prizes, one of \$300 and one of \$200, will be given by this society for the best two designs for a new United States silver dollar.

The conditions are as follows:

All models must be in plaster and not colored in any manner. All models in competition must be 6 in. in diameter, but artists have the privilege of sending in for exhibition preliminary studies of any size, but mounted on separate boards.

All models in competition must be securely mounted, side by side, on a light-colored wood, three-fourths of an inch thick and 12 in. high by 21 in. wide, bearing the full name and address of the artist.

The society reserves the right to withhold both prizes if no designs worthy of serious consideration are sent in.

If the competition brings out a design of sufficient excellence, the society will urge its adoption by the National Government.

Exhibits will be accepted on condition that they shall not be withdrawn before the close of the exhibition, even if, as is possible, the exhibition should be continued two weeks later than the date of closing as above given.

F. WELLINGTON RUCKSTUHL, Secretary,
229 East Twentieth street.